

Powell Township Parks & Recreation

PO Box 319
Big Bay, MI 49808

Date: 09/10/2024

Time: 6:30 PM

Members:

Sven Gonstead - Present

Darlene Turner (treasurer) – Present

Heidi Shatz (chair) - Present

Kelli Santilli (secretary) – Present

Lauri Shaw - Present

Coty Sorby (vice chair) – Present

Linda Ludwig - Present

1. Approval of Agenda. **MOTION** to approve agenda made with additions (by Coty/supported by Kelli (7 aye; 0 nay). Separate community and native garden. Add #6 new business 2025 MDARD.
2. Approval of Minutes. **MOTION** to approve minutes made by Linda/supported by Darlene (7 aye; 0 nay). New business #1 – Should be 4 aye and 2 nay.
3. Financial Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

PRESENTATIONS:

GRANTS:

1. SPARK – Plans have not been submitted to DNR. Prime professional license lapsed. New prime professional temporarily. Darlene suggests withholding payment until.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Look over annual events and programming. Suggest removing snowshoe event. **MOTION** made to discontinue snowshoe made by Kelli/supported by Heidi (7 aye/0 nay). Some events are supportive of Parks and Rec but we are not lead on. PTRN volunteer picnic. **MOTION** made by Sven to discontinue/supported by Heidi (7 nay/0

- may). Discussion of removing games on Fire on the Bay. Fall Fest September – Parks and Rec will have a tent/table. Christmas tree lighting – Need volunteer to take charge.
2. What are the next important projects – Scaling back to prevent burnout. Sven – Safe Routes to School looking promising, he will be available to help with that. 5-year review plan with Mike and Sven – Coty will help. Committee to review and offer suggestions. Education needed. How to get more volunteers. Seeking someone to take over Easter egg hunt and Christmas tree lighting – Linda to put in newsletter.
 3. Recreation Economy for Rural Communities – Seminar. Sven – Good opportunity, maybe not great timing. Application due October 16. Apply, get letters of support within 1 month, then steering committee, meetings.
 4. NTN buying a CanyCom machine for Big Bay trails. Lauri seeking to learn if NTN has made decision. Coty to think about any items trails may need.
 5. Pick a 30' flagpole for Draver Park and order. Add to action item list. Heidi will add list to monthly agenda.
 6. MDARD grant 2025 – Consider applying and what money may be used for. Due in late January or early February. Up to 100,000 with 25% grant. Committee to make recommendations at next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Job Description for Fire on the Bay Committee Chair. Township board approved. Linda will put in newsletter.
2. Sarah Kelso from the Conservation District update – Need vote to apply for the US Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant under “Mitigate Invasive Forest Insect and Disease Impacts.” Conservation District decided they would like to apply for a different grant. This other grant would be DNR, \$100,000 with no match. Heidi to provide more info before next township board meeting.
3. 5-year master plan – Mike Springer – Review Chapter 1
4. One wheel use on trails – No update. NTN has not made a decision. Meeting next week.
5. Burns Landing Cabin – Lauri – Gertz twins did a nice job cleaning. Consider opening cabin for Fall Fest. Consider renting out. Lauri would like update in newsletter with request for ideas for future use. Coty – Interior cabin needs finished. Supervision needed if to be open. Heidi suggests adding plan added to 5-year plan. T-shirts to be moved to cabin.
6. Park Conduct Ordinance Review – Tabled. Heidi requests everyone read and submit suggestions by November meeting.
7. Thomas Rock picnic table, bench repair. Not done. Coty would like to explore options for local sources. Coty suggests moving table from bottom to top.

8. NTN MOU – Sven submitted to NTN. They will discuss next week. Wording changes are expected.
9. Spark Grant \$185,000 needed. Pending. Sven to prepare proposal. Heidi to check with Jenn Hill. Heidi to request from township board, Tuesday at 7:00.

REPORTS

1. Parks and Rec Trail Manager (Coty) – Working on bypass on Big Bay Pathway. Trails are holding up well. Trail cameras and counters are all up. Counters may be inflated from installation process.
2. BBSC Liaison (Kelsey) – Fall Fest 09/21/24 – Consider promoting native garden, give tours, discuss with Jane.
3. Safe Routes to School (Mike) – Sven and Mike going to workshop next week in Escanaba.
4. Trails Sustainability Coalition Representative (Lauri) – No news. Sven - Trail report came out, it is online and in paper form. Next steps include community engagement this fall.
5. Burns Landing (Darlene) – Waiting for signs to be finished. Bill Sanders working on it.
6. Draver Park (Committee) – As above.
7. Thomas Rock(Committee) – As above. Coty – Information covers need fixed.
8. Concert series (Sven) – No news.
9. Native Garden – September 12, meeting with school/kids, planting from 12-3. September 24, 5-8 last workday. Maddie coming to spray next week (24-hour cool off).
10. Community Garden – Coty – Plan to build exterior fence this year.
11. PTRR (Sven) – Tabled.
 - a. Road crossing progress/plans
12. Fundraising – GiveButter – no donations in August.
13. Big Bay Newsletter – Linda discussed items in newsletter.
14. Parks and Recreation Community Outreach – Heidi bought tablecloth/banner for Fall Fest. Drawings of Draver park upgrade. Trails mapping. Grants received and uses.

PUBLIC COMMENT –

Red – Save the cook shack.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn made by Heidi/Lauri supported by (7 aye, 0 nay) at 7:48 pm.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – October 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Kelli Santilli

Powell Township Annual Programming/Events

last edited 03/12/2024

Thomas Rock Showshoe Event (third Saturday of January)

Fishing Derby (second weekend in February)

Honey Bear Classic (second weekend in February)

Easter Egg Hunt (first Saturday before Easter)

Thomas Rock Spring Clean-up and Potluck (first week of May)

Burns Landing Spring Clean-up (first week of May)

Big Bay Relay (third Saturday of May)

First Summer Concert (second or third Saturday in June)

PTRN Volunteer Picnic (second or third Saturday in June)

July 4th Parade (July 4)

July 4th Softball Tournament (weekend after July 4)

Fire on the Bay (2nd Saturday in July)

2nd Summer Concert Series (2nd Saturday in July)

3rd Summer Concert Series (first Saturday in August)

Labor Day Softball Tournament (Labor Day weekend)

Harvest Festival (third weekend in September)

4th Summer Concert Series (third weekend in September)

Christmas Tree Lighting (first Saturday in December)